

well & compactly reported, but  
more details should have  
been given, and especially of  
the clinical phenomena  
& course of the disease in the  
cases which recovered.

W.B.

# On some complications of Enteric fever.

by

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PMSD

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In what follows it is my intention to make a short analysis of 150 cases of Enteric fever which were under my care in Belvidere Fever Hospital, with special reference to the relative frequency of occurrence of certain symptoms and complications, and to give a detailed history of those cases in which the complications are of rare occurrence.

The period over which the observation of these cases took place, extended from September 1883 till March 1885 and included a severe epidemic of Enteric fever occurring in Glasgow in the autumn of 1884.

The cases were unselected and were all well marked; many doubtful ones and those that looked like enteric but ran a very

short course being left out of account.

The diagnostic points chiefly relied upon, were - 1<sup>st</sup> The course of the temperatures and 2<sup>nd</sup> The occurrence of rose-spots.

The treatment employed was mainly expectant. The only routine followed being with regard to diet which was almost invariably milk and beef-tea till convalescence set in.

Out of the 250 cases 40 were fatal giving a mortality of 16 per cent. The mortality among males was 16.9 and among females 14.4 per cent.

If the 40 fatal cases all but two died during the course of the fever and these two both succumbed to tubercular disease. In one case it was developed out of the fever without any interval, in the

other there was an interval of apparent convalescence.

Perforation of the bowel was the fatal complication in 16 out of the 60 cases which did not recover. Among males nearly one half of the fatal cases had perforation of the bowel but the proportion among females was much less, in 15 deaths there being only 4 cases of perforation.

Of the total number of cases admitted with Enteritis four 6.6 percent took perforation.

The diagnosis of this complication was not confirmed in all the cases by post-mortem examination but where this was not done, the symptoms were well-marked and unmistakable. The points chiefly relied upon, and which were always found in those cases where a

post-mortem was obtained, were,-  
the collapsed state of the pulse and  
the regurgitation of bilious matter  
from the stomach without effort.

Abdominal pain and tenderness  
were sometimes not complained of  
when the patient was far advanced  
in the disease.

In a few cases where the  
patient had been exhausted by  
a protracted illness, and  
especially by repeated haemorrhages,  
it was impossible to tell at  
what time the perforation took  
place.

Out of the 16 cases, perforation  
took place in the 1<sup>st</sup> week in two  
of them, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in six,  
in the fourth week in 7, in the  
5<sup>th</sup> week once and in the  
6<sup>th</sup> week one.

In all the cases except two,

diarrhoea was a marked feature of the case from the beginning of the illness. In those two cases the bowels were confined and the perforation in each case took place in the 4<sup>th</sup> week of the disease. In four cases, haemorrhage from the bowel preceded the symptoms of peritonitis.

In one or two instances there were what seemed to be symptoms of peritonitis and these were followed by complete recovery.

The symptoms however were never extreme and the patient did not sink into the state of complete collapse usually observed in fatal cases. There were, however, vomiting with abdominal distension and pain, thoracic breathing, and a weak and quick pulse and it is probable

that there was some peritonitis, but whether from perforation or not, could not be stated.

In one case however, partial recovery from actual perforation did occur.

The patient was a woman aged 27, admitted on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> 1884, having been ill for twelve days with general pains and diarrhoea. She was very anaemic and had been laid up for ten weeks after her confinement shortly before she took this illness.

Shortly after admission she complained of pain in the abdomen and had several loose pea-soup motions. There were a few rather doubtful rose spots. The temperatures were high.

On Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> she had persistent vomiting and shortly afterwards a swelling was noticed in the abdomen extending from the lower edge of the liver in the direction of the umbilicus.

This was extremely tender to the touch but devoid of fluctuation. It disappeared in a few days and the vomiting ceased.

On March 10<sup>th</sup> (37<sup>th</sup> day of illness) the morning temperature showed some tendency to fall, but the bowels still continued loose and the diarrhoea was particularly obstinate to treatment.

At the beginning of April the temperature was normal both morning and evening but shortly after, it rose again

the bowels containing more or less loose all the time.

On April 25<sup>th</sup> patient was seized with violent abdominal pain. Distension followed and she became partially collapsed. Opium was given hypodermically and by the mouth with very small quantities of ied milk and brandy.

From this state she gradually recovered and by the beginning of May was comparatively well except for occasional vomiting and looseness of the bowels.

She never completely rallied however and on 11<sup>th</sup> May she gradually sank and died suddenly from asthma.

At the post mortem examination the thoracic organs were found healthy.

The peritoneum showed signs of peritonitis which did not appear to be recent. In the right iliac region the intestines were glued together and to the abdominal wall, and in this region also was a large abscess having its walls formed partly by the matted intestines and partly by the abdominal wall and containing pus and faecal matter. This had evidently resulted from the perforation which occurred probably on the 25<sup>th</sup> April.

In the small intestine were numerous pigmented cicatrises evidently the remains of old ulcers. The large intestine from the Ilio-colic valve to the rectum was studded with raw ulcers.

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The perforation could not be found. Probably it was situated about the caecum.

Of the remaining 24 fatal cases 9 died of the fever pure and simple, either when it was at its height or towards the end of its course from asthenia.

In 5 out of those 9 cases, the temperatures were not more than moderately high, averaging about  $102^{\circ}$  or  $103^{\circ}$  Fahr.

In three cases they were very high, usually above  $104^{\circ}$ , but in one of those death did not take place till the temperature, at the end of the fourth week, had become nearly normal.

In one case the temperatures were low during the first three weeks but during the

fourth and fifth they became very high and death took place without complication on the 35<sup>th</sup> day of illness.

Pyrexia, per se, was not treated unless the temperature remained persistently over 101°.

When this occurred, cold applications to the abdomen with the internal administration of Iminine or Antipyrin were employed, usually with the effect of reducing the temperature but often without any corresponding improvement in the general condition of the patient. Cold baths were not used.

The other complications which caused death were:— hemorrhage from the bowel (in 6 cases) empyema, pneumonia, embolism,

Can occur also, convulsions, cerebral hemorrhage and acute spinal paralysis, each in one case.

As before stated two of the cases died from tubercular disease after the fever had run its course.

Hemorrhage from the bowel occurred in 16 out of 250 cases and in 11 instances the patient died. Death, however, did not in all those cases take place as the direct result of the hemorrhage. In four cases perforation occurred after the hemorrhage and in one case the patient died from asthenia after some time after the hemorrhage had ceased. In the remaining six cases death was evidently

due directly to the occurrence  
of this complication.

The time of occurrence of  
the hemorrhage was as follows:—  
in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week 4 cases, in the  
3<sup>rd</sup> week 5 cases, in the 4<sup>th</sup> week  
4 cases, in the 5<sup>th</sup> week 7 cases  
and in the 9<sup>th</sup> week one case.

In nine cases there had been  
either no diarrhoea or a con-  
stipated condition of the bowels,  
and in the remaining seven  
cases, the bowels had been loose  
previous to the occurrence of  
the hemorrhage.

In all the five cases which  
recovered, the bowels had been  
confined. In two of these the  
hemorrhage took place in the  
2<sup>nd</sup> week of the disease and of  
the other three, one was in the  
3<sup>rd</sup>, one in the 5<sup>th</sup> and one in

the year weeks.

In two of the cases which recovered the hemorrhage was slight and in three it was considerable. In no case could it be called severe i.e. amounting to three or four pints.

It could not be said that in any case the patient seemed better after the hemorrhage and in one or two instances it brought about a condition of great weakness from which recovery was slow.

The cases which proved fatal most rapidly were those in which the first evidence of hemorrhage was a clot of blood at the anus, and following shortly after, repeated dashes of pure blood. One such case occurred in a

boy of ten years on the 15<sup>th</sup> day  
of illness, and death took place  
within 6 hours of the first  
appearance of hemorrhage.

The treatment which was  
usually adopted and which  
was thought most effective, was,  
the application of ice-bags to  
the abdomen with the internal  
administration of lead and  
opium, and rest in large  
doses frequent.

Pneumonia occurred in  
nine cases in four of which the  
patient died. It was met with  
in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in one case in the  
3<sup>rd</sup> week in three, in the 4<sup>th</sup> week  
in three and one each in the  
5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> weeks.  
In two cases it occurred during  
the first week of convalescence

The expectoration was rarely noted as rusty. More often it consisted of florid blood or blood slightly mixed with mucus.

Pneumatory distress was not often great even though the physical signs in the lung were well marked.

Of the four cases which died it was only in two that the pneumonia seemed to cause death directly. One of the cases which recovered was a girl 5 years old in which there was well marked double pneumonia.

Pleurisy was noted in three cases and one of these died from septicemia. The other two recovered. In neither of them was there any evidence of pleuritic effusion. The pleurisy was ushered in by

severe rigors, and pain was complained of but the attacks did not seem to interrupt or prolong the course of the fever.

The patient who died from empyema was a man aged 50 years, admitted to the Hospital on ~~the~~ <sup>1st</sup> January 1884, having taken ill ten days before that, with repeated shivering and sickness. There had also been some looseness of the bowels.

When admitted he was quite sensible and made no special complaint of anything. The abdomen was somewhat full and on it and on the back were some characteristic rose-shots.

He said he had suffered from seethersat since the 1<sup>st</sup> day of his illness and on examination a shallow ulcer was found on

the left tonsil extending on to  
the uvula. Examination of the  
chest revealed nothing but the  
presence of some ribrilant râles.

On the 1st Jan. the temperature  
began to fall gradually and  
by the 14<sup>th</sup> (10<sup>th</sup> day of illness)  
it had reached normal and  
the patient was apparently  
convalescent. The throat symptom  
had quite disappeared.

On the evening of the 18<sup>th</sup> Jan.,  
however, the temperature rose  
suddenly to  $105^{\circ}$  and on the  
following evening to  $106.7^{\circ}$ .

There was no complaint of  
anything in particular and  
physical examination of the  
chest or elsewhere failed to account  
for the pyrexia. Sixty grains  
of Guinine were ordered, in three  
doses, and by the end of nine

hours the temperature had fallen to normal.

Next night (77<sup>th</sup> Jan.) the temperature was only 99°. but on examining the back, slight comparative dullness was found at the base of the right lung with some crepitus over the dull area. There was some slight non-purulent expectoration.

On 78<sup>th</sup> Jan patient had a rigor accompanied by a paroxysm of coughing and the temperature rose to 104.6°. The signs in the lung were now more marked and there was distinct fine crepitus over the right back.

On Jan 79<sup>th</sup> there was a sudden access of dyspnoea and pain in the side. Temperature was 105°, the dullness over the right lung had become even more marked

and the râle had disappeared leaving a faint respiratory murmur. The sounds of the heart were feeble but free from murmur.

During the next few days the temperature continued high and there were evident signs of a large collection of fluid in the right pleural cavity.

On Feb 11<sup>th</sup> a fly-blister was applied to the right side of the chest and on Feb 16<sup>th</sup> while patient was sitting up to have his shirt changed he suddenly fell back and expired.

At the post mortem examination a large collection of pus was found in the right pleural cavity occupying principally its posterior part, the right lung being adherent to the chest

wall in front. The left lung was somewhat emphysematous but otherwise normal. The spleen was soft and in the small intestine were a few cicatrices of what had evidently been enteric ulcers.

Tubercular disease was observed to follow Enteric fever in at least two instances. In a third case the patient died from symptoms extremely suggestive of tubercle, but a post mortem examination could not be obtained.

The patient, a lad of 19, had well marked enteric fever and did well until the 21<sup>st</sup> day of illness, when he began to have severe rigors. These were associated with very high temperature and continued

at intervals for about a week.

Examination of the chest revealed dulness with moist crackling rales at the apex of the right lung. There was also distinct pericardial friction. He had also some haemoptysis.

The temperature continued high and the patient gradually sank till death took place at the end of seventeen days after the first shivering.

In another case which died the diagnosis of tubercle was confirmed by post mortem examination.

The patient, a girl aged 19, had a protracted but uncomplicated attack of enteric fever. The temperature fell about the end of the sixth week and she then appeared to be convalescent

The temperature rose again, however, in about ten days, and she was thought to be having a relapse. The febrile symptoms continued until her death which took place nine weeks after.

During that time little could be made out of her condition.

Her lungs were examined repeatedly without anything particular being discovered, except weakness of the respiratory murmur.

Towards the end of her illness she became melancholic and had hallucinations. This condition changed for one of excitement or a pleasurable description, and finally she sank into a state of coma. It was then evident that she had meningitis.

At the post mortem examination tubercles were found studding

the lungs, peritoneum and meninges of the brain. The intestines were glued together by adhesions, but there was an entire absence of anything like fresh ulceration of the mucous surface of the bowel.

There were, however, depressed and pigmented cicatrices in the lower part of the ileum.

The third case also occurred in a young woman aged 17, who had a well marked attack of enteritis fever and convalesced at the end of three weeks.

A week or two after this the temperature began to rise, she had some cough and on examining the chest dull percussion was found at the apex of the right lung with some clicking râles.

The case was dismissed from

## The Hospital.

Embolism occurred in at least two cases in both of which the diagnosis was confirmed by post mortem examination.

The first case was that of a man aged 48, admitted on Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 1883, with well marked Enteric fever, on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of his illness.

It was a sharp case with rather high temperatures, and for some days after admission he had very severe headache. This however, could always be relieved by the cold douche. Nothing remarkable occurred till 18<sup>th</sup> Dec, (18<sup>th</sup> day of illness) when he was seized with pain in the right side, and had some expectoration which had somewhat of the

"rusty" character but differed from the ordinary pneumonic spit in being more sanguineous  
Examination of the lungs revealed a small area of dull percussion at the base of the right lung, over which there were fine crepitant râles.

From this time he gradually became weaker, the bloody expectoration and signs of pulmonary consolidation persisting. Nothing remarkable was noticed about the heart, except weakness of the pulse.

On Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> he was seized with trismus of the jaw and on the following day he died.

Shortly before death he had some spasmodic twitchings of the hands and feet.

At the post mortem examination

The heart was found normal and free from thrombi.

There was hypostatic congestion at the bases of both lungs, but in addition to this there was, in the lower lobe of the right lung, a wedge shaped infarction of tolerably firm consistency. The spleen was much enlarged and soft and there were numerous deep ulcers in the ileum. There are no notes of the condition of the kidneys.

The second case was that of a woman aged 34, admitted on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> 1883, on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of her illness, with characteristic rose spots and the usually history of intermission.

She had a somewhat protracted attack, and during convalescence

was troubled with a cough.

Nothing particular, however, was discovered in the lungs.

On 26<sup>th</sup> Dec after the temperature had been normal for some time, she was suddenly seized with pain in the right foot.

On examination it was found to be cold, waxy in appearance, and nearly destitute of sensation.

The pulse could not be felt at the right ankle. The pulse at the wrist was weak, as were also the heart sounds, which were, however, free from murmur.

Some stimulant with small doses of opium were ordered, and the foot was wrapped in cotton wool and kept warm by means of hot jars.

On the following day the distal extremity of the right ~~leg~~

great toe was quite black.

The rest of the foot was cold but not discoloured.

During the next few days the second and third toes also became discoloured but there was no sign of vesication or anything like a line of demarcation. The foot remained cold except when artificial heat was applied, and the pain continued severe.

The patient gradually became weaker and died on 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. five days after the first signs of gangrene had appeared.

The gangrenous parts were quite free from smell.

In post mortem examination the body was found emaciated and the first, second, and third toes of the right foot, purple

coloured.

In the heart a single large adherent thrombus was found in the left ventricle. There was no valvular lesion.

Both lungs were congested at their bases and on the left side there was an infarction.

The spleen was not much enlarged. Its lower part was broken down and consisted of a semi fluid cherry looking substance held together by the capsule.

The liver was normal.

The kidneys were small and irregular on the surface.

In their substance were numerous pale infarctions, each with a red area.

There was no fresh ulceration in the intestine but in the

lower part of the ileum were one or two well marked cicatrices. The right femoral artery was cut down upon and found to contain a firm clot adherent to the walls of the vessel and extending from the commencement of Hunter's canal, to the bifurcation of the artery in the popliteal space.

It was evident that in this case numerous embolic infarctions had been taking place, but none of them were recognised during life except the one in the femoral artery.

Illustration (Bancet Oct 15 1877) reports a somewhat similar case, in which on the 49<sup>th</sup> day of illness, the right foot and leg became cold, and shortly afterwards gangrene set in.

The leg was amputated and the patient, a man, was recovering at the time. The report was published.

Four cases of edema of the foot were noted, which seemed to be due to the occurrence of thrombosis of the veins.

In all four cases the complication took place at a late period of the disease, the days of illness being the 55<sup>th</sup>, 58<sup>th</sup>, 62<sup>nd</sup> and 69<sup>th</sup> respectively. In each case it was the left limb which was affected.

There was, as a rule, a considerable amount of pain accompanying the swelling, and felt both in the thigh and in the calf. In two cases there

was, besides this, marked hyperaesthesia of the foot and leg. Elevation of the temperature was noted in only two out of the four cases.

In one case the oedema was remarkably persistent, lasting for about two months, during which time the temperature was normal, and the patient otherwise quite well.

Out of the four cases only one was fatal, and here death occurred sometime after the swelling had disappeared.

The treatment which we found most effectual in relieving the symptoms was the elevation of the limb on a couple of pillows, and strict confinement to bed.

Oedema of both feet occurring

in convalescence, usually a day or two after the patient had got up, and unaccompanied by pain or constitutional disturbance, was found in a good many instances, mostly in cases where the duration of the disease had been protracted.

It was probably due to simple weakness of the circulation.

Erysipelas occurred in five cases, two of which were fatal.

In three cases, in which it occurred on the face (2 of them fatal) it came on after repeated hemorrhage from the bowel, on the 26<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup>, and 37<sup>th</sup> day of illness, respectively.

The appearance of the affected

skin was not exactly like that in ordinary erysipelas. The skin was raised, waxy looking and pink rather than red in colour. In those cases in which it occurred on the face, there was no actual sore but in one of them the nose had been rendered painful by the patient picking it with his fingers. In the other two cases the erysipelas appeared first as a raised patch on the forehead, not unlike a large urticaria wheal, and from thence spread over the rest of the face.

In one case it occurred on the back and evidently arose from a bed sore on the sacrum. This was one of those which recovered.

In another case facial erysipelas appeared during convalescence and seemed to be due to the patient exposing herself to a cold draught.

In two cases, bedsores which had evidently an origin of a trophic nature, occurred. One of these recovered, the other was fatal.

The first case was an ordinary one of Enteric fever with characteristic symptoms and rash, admitted on Dec. 18 1884 on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of his illness.

On the day following admission he had a copious hemorrhage from the bowel and this was repeated at frequent intervals during the next four days, leaving the patient much blanched and very

weak. At this time and indeed all through the case, the intelligence remained quite clear and there was nothing pointing to cerebral disturbance.

On Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, however, (15<sup>th</sup> day of illness) there was complete retention of urine, necessitating the use of a catheter. This condition persisted intermittently for the next few days and then gave place to incontinence.

Along with this there was some cystitis. There was also extreme tympanitis which was partially relieved by puncture.

On 27<sup>th</sup> Dec (21<sup>st</sup> day of illness) some vesicles appeared over the anterior superior spine of the ilium and also over the dorsum of the ilium on the same side. These were filled with straw

coloured fluid and were surrounded by an inflammatory area, presenting an appearance similar to that produced by a scald. Two days later they had become converted into sores with black discharges from their bases, and some fresh vesicles had developed on the left side on the outside of the thigh and also one on the outside of the right elbow-joint. A vesicle of similar appearance showed itself over the coccyx.

In none of these positions except the last one, were the parts exposed to pressure for the patient invariably lay on his back. Neither was the skin irritated by wine or other fluid.

The patient died from another hemorrhage on Dec 29 (1<sup>st</sup> day of illness).

The sores remaining as described above

The second case was also one of well marked enteric fever and occurred in a boy aged 14 admitted on Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 1882 on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of illness. He had, however, distinct cerebral symptoms which led to the suspicion that he was suffering from meningitis. The eyes were fixed and had a vacant stare, the pupils being widely dilated. There was rigidity of the arms but no actual paralysis. Each cerebral was well marked. There was complete retention of urine and the patient seemed to take little notice of what was going on. In a few days it became clear, by the occurrence of rose spots and frequent motions that the

Patient had at least entered  
fever whatever else might be  
wrong.

On 9<sup>th</sup> Febr. (16<sup>th</sup> day of illness)  
the cerebral symptoms had  
become less marked and the  
patient was able to answer  
questions in a half intelligent  
manner.

At this time there appeared  
over both feet and legs various  
patches of congested skin, with,  
in some places, the epidermis  
raised so as to form a blister.  
These occurred on the front of  
the skin, on the dorsum of the  
foot, on the head, and on the  
plantar surface of some of the  
toes. At first it was supposed  
that they had been produced  
by the pressure of one leg lying  
over the other, but their occurrence

in some of the positions was quite inconsistent with this idea.

The blisters, when formed, were filled with a dark purple coloured fluid. On the leg and dorsum of the foot the vesicles burst, leaving an abraded surface, but on the heel and toes, where the epidermis was thick, the blisters remained unbroken and after convalescence had been completely established, persisted as round bluish spots about the size of a half crown on the heel and of a sixpence on the toes.

About the same time as those formed a profuse crop of pustules came out over the buttocks and extended down the posterior surface of the thighs; a week or two later the same thing occurred over the left scapular region.

The pustules gave rise to ulcers in only a few cases; in the rest they dried up and formed thick crusts.

The temperature did not become quite normal till the 35<sup>th</sup> day of illness and it was not till then that the sores showed much disposition to heal.

For a long time the patient remained very childish in manner and seemed to have lost the control of his bladder, as he constantly passed water in bed. He ultimately made a good recovery.

The case of Cancrum oris occurred in a bodily nourished female child aged 6½ years, who was sent from the Town Hospital with enteric fever. The first sign of gangrene

was an ulcer on the inside  
of the right cheek appearing  
in the 5<sup>th</sup> week of illness. With  
this there was some swelling  
and tension of the cheek.

About a week after, a black  
spot appeared on the outside of  
the cheek and this increased in  
size rapidly until it involved  
the greater part of the cheek  
including the angle of the mouth.

An ulcerative process then began  
at the edge of the slough which  
partially separated it from the  
sound skin. The separation was  
completed by cutting with scissors  
and the slough was removed.

This left both upper and lower  
jaws exposed and evidently  
beginning to necrose.  
The left cheek then began to  
necrose in the same way as

the right had done, a black  
spot appearing on the outside  
shortly after. Death took place  
before the process had extended  
far on this side.

The child lived about fourteen  
days after the first appearance  
of the gangrene on the right  
side and during this time the  
intelligence remained quite clear,  
and she was able to drink water  
freely.

The temperature for a day or  
two before death was very high  
reaching  $105.6^{\circ}$  on the day that  
she died.

Dr. Green (Medical Times, Jan. 18 1880)  
reports a somewhat similar case  
in which the ulcer was first  
noticed on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of illness.  
The upper and lower jaws were exposed  
by ulceration, and the patient, a boy

aged 9 years, died on the 51<sup>st</sup> day  
of illness.

Parotitis was observed in  
two cases.

One, a boy of 6 years admitted  
on Jan 12<sup>th</sup> 1883 with rather obscure  
symptoms but said to have been  
ill for six days.

A slight fulness was noticed  
at the angle of the jaw on  
the right side on Jan 14<sup>th</sup> (8<sup>th</sup> day  
of illness). This rapidly increased  
so as to form a hard painful  
swelling in front of and below  
the ear. The temperature con-  
tinued very high but irregular and  
the pulse was weak. The boy  
died three days after the first  
appearance of the Parotitis, which  
seemed to have a considerable share  
in bringing about the fatal event.

In post mortem examination the characteristic lesions of enteric fever were found, and on cutting into the swelling on the right side of the face, the parotid was found much enlarged, firm and exuding a dark purious fluid.

The other case occurred in a man aged 26, admitted on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of his illness with symptoms of enteric fever but without any rash.

On admission there was a considerable swelling in the region of the parotid on the left side, and this the patient said he had not seen on the day previous. The swelling increased rapidly and on the following day the same thing was noticed on the right side.

The temperature were very high and the patient delirious. A few days after this, both swelling became fluctuant and were incised. Not much pus escaped at the time, but next day some dead tissue and a good deal of pus came away. After this the patient began to improve. He is now doing well but the temperature is not quite normal yet. (March 1885)

An interesting case of paralysis occurred which was evidently of spinal origin.

The following is extracted from the Ward Journal:

James W aged 25, Smith, Admitted Nov. 8 1885 on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of his illness.

He took ill with shivering, headache

and severe abdominal pain.

The bowels were slightly relaxed and on one or two occasions he had bleeding from the nose.

When admitted, he was quite sensible. Temperature was  $106.6^{\circ}$ . Pulse was full and easily compressible. Tongue slightly furred. No rose spots were discovered but there were numerous tache blennâtres over the chest, abdomen and back.

Nov 9<sup>th</sup>

Has had three loose motions since yesterday.

Morning temperature  $105.8^{\circ}$  Evening  $105.6^{\circ}$

Nov 10<sup>th</sup>

Early this morning patient had a sensation of stiffness in his left leg, and by the middle of the day there was complete paralysis of both lower limbs.

with diminished sense of touch.  
There had been no severe pain  
in the back or limbs.

He was unable to raise himself  
in bed, or to turn himself.

In the afternoon his arms became  
partially paralysed and the  
thoracic muscles of respiration  
ceased to act, breathing being  
evidently accomplished solely by  
the diaphragm.

There was slight drooping of the  
right eyelid with external strabismus  
of the right eye.

For a short time he seemed  
unable to speak or to swallow.

At a P.M. there was complete  
paralysis and anesthesia of the  
lower limbs and partial of the  
upper.

The breathing was going on  
as before.

Patient was then quite sensible and able to speak and to swallow. Morning temperature 107.6 Evening 105°. A spinal ice bag was applied in the afternoon.

Now 11<sup>th</sup>

Patient continues in much the same condition as before.

Complete paralysis of the lower limbs with anæsthesia and insensibility to sensation of cold or heat are present.

Cutaneous reflexes are absent. Sensation is absent over the trunk below the level of the nipple and defective above this. The paralysis of the arms is only partial. They can be moved a little from the shoulder and resistance is made when the forearm is forcibly extended.

There seems to be nearly absolute anaesthesia over the arms.

Breathing is extremely laboured.

Patient can still speak a little.

He puts out his tongue when asked and can swallow though with difficulty.

Occasional twitchings of the eyelids were observed.

There is complete retention of urine and the bowels are moved involuntarily. The motions are pale but not very loose.

Morning temperature  $101^{\circ}$ .

Cod liver oil extract  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz  
prescribed in 10 min doses every three hours.

At night patient became more conscious. The breathing was even more laboured than before and it was with the greatest difficulty

that he could be made to swallow.

Nov 12<sup>th</sup>

Temperature this morning was  $101^{\circ}$

At 9 A.M. heart gradually sinks and died

Post mortem examination

Nov 13<sup>th</sup>

Nothing remarkable in the external appearance except the persistence of the tache blanches over abdomen and thighs.

Heart normal.

Lungs edematous and congested.  
Spleen about three times its natural size.

Liver normal.

The small intestine contains a large quantity of clotted blood and just above the ileo-colic valve

The agminated glands are much thickened. There is, however, no distinct elevation. The mesenteric glands are also enlarged.

There is nothing abnormal in the naked eye appearance of the brain.

A small part only of the spinal cord was examined, opposite the dorsal vertebrae, and here also nothing remarkable could be discovered by the naked eye.

Relapse occurred in 8 out of the 250 cases.

The longest period after the primary attack at which it occurred was 17 days, the shortest 5 days, the usual time being about the 10<sup>th</sup> day.

The average duration of the

Relapse was  $12\frac{1}{2}$  days.

A second relapse was noted in only one case. It occurred 10 days after convalescence from the first and lasted 18 days.

In none of these cases was there any suspicion of the relapse being brought about by indiscretion in diet.

Most of the cases had had no solid food in the interval.

A distinct scarlatina form rash was noted in 17 cases. It was never punctated and bore more of the character of an erythema. It was most frequently seen on the chest and abdomen alone, but occasionally on the arms and legs as well. With it there was often slight

Congestion of the fauces, and  
two such cases were sent into  
the Hospital as Scarlet fever.

Both were severe cases of enteric  
and both ultimately died.

The time of occurrence of this  
rash was very variable, having  
been seen as early as the 3<sup>rd</sup> day  
of illness and as late as the 21<sup>st</sup>.  
Sometime it was fleeting and  
was seen only for a day or two  
but in other cases it persisted for  
a week or more, or disappeared  
and came out again later on in  
the fever or at the beginning of  
a relapse.

It was followed in many cases  
by a fine creamy desquamation.

Yacca blenniæ were noted  
in 17 cases, 6 of which were  
fatal.

Many of the cases not fatal  
were severe.

They were often seen before the  
rose spots and were noted as  
early as the 5<sup>th</sup> day of illness.